

December 6, 2012

Senator Robert P. Casey, Jr.  
United States Senate  
393 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison  
United States Senate  
284 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators Casey and Hutchison:

On behalf of the undersigned organizations, we would like to thank you for your leadership on the Afghan Women and Girls Security Promotion Act of 2012. This bill is a critical step towards advancing and protecting the human rights of Afghan women and girls.

The Afghan Women and Girls Security Promotion Act would require the Department of Defense to develop a three-part strategy to promote and support the security of Afghan women and girls during and after the security transition process. The bill recognizes that the United States has the opportunity and the obligation to take immediate steps to ensure and strengthen women's security and lay a foundation for Afghan women's full participation in the long term.

The security of women and girls is essential to the future stability and prosperity of Afghanistan. There can be no just or sustainable peace without the guaranteed protection of human rights, including women's human rights. We appreciate your significant efforts to ensure that the U.S. does its part to empower women and ensure that their security needs are a priority.

We look forward to continued collaboration with you on this important legislation.

Sincerely,

American Society for Muslim Advancement  
Amnesty International USA  
Catholics for Choice  
Center for Advancement of Public Policy  
Church Women United  
Coalition of Labor Union Women  
CREDO  
Dolores Huerta Foundation  
Feminist Majority  
Futures Without Violence  
Global Gender Program, Elliot School, GW  
Human Rights Watch  
Hunt Alternatives, LLC  
Institute of Multi-Track Diplomacy  
The Interfaith Center of New York  
Jewish Women International

Just Foreign Policy  
The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights  
National Council of Jewish Women  
National Council of Women's Organizations  
National Organization for Women  
NCBCP Black Women's Roundtable  
NETWORK, A National Catholic Social Justice Lobby  
Peace X Peace  
Trust Women/Silver Ribbon Campaign  
UniteWomen.org  
US National Committee for UN Women  
Women's Actions for New Directions (WAND)  
Women Enabled, Inc.  
Women for Afghan Women  
Women's Research and Education Institute